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THE
APOTHECARY
DISPLAY'D:
OR, AN
ANSWER
TO THE
APOTHECARY'S PAMPHLET,
CALLED
Frauds detected in Drugs.
WHEREIN HIS
Profession and Important Character
IS
TRULY CONSIDERED.

These Fellows are of exceeding Honesty.
Shakespear's Othello.

London:
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MDCCXLVIII.





TO THE
A U T H O R
O F T H E
Apothecaries Pamphlet.

Prosperum scelus virtus vocatur. SALUST.

GI V E me Leave, in the Name of the Apothecaries, to thank you for your curious Treatise upon Frauds. Your Discov-
eries are as surprizing even unto them, as they are to the rest of the World. It was for a Genius like yours only, to de-
tect those Artifices, which they but desire to provide against; for the Glory of God, the Welfare

Welfare of the Public, and the Satisfaction of doing Good. The Adulteration of Medicines, the Differences, Incertainties, and Sophistication of Drugs, was reserved for your Explanation. They wou'd look suspicious, and come discredited from the Mouth of an Ignorant Apothecary : It was your Business, therefore, to treat of Things beyond their shallow Knowledge, or even your own. When they start a Piece of Roguery, you hunt it down : They suspect, but you discover ; and their weak Testimonies are corroborated by your more positive Allegations. They expected your Pamphlet with Impatience before it came out ; and now it is come out, they represent it as a Thing unanswerable ; and yet you declare you knew nothing either of the Apothecaries or their Petition, tho' they have been concerting it, making the strongest Interest, and watching a favourable Crisis, (as they call it) for bringing it into the House, for these four Years past. You are forced to have Recourse to Rumour, Hear-says, and private Receipts, you have been told, have received Hints, have had it communicated to you, you have Reason to believe ; and what you have gathered together from such like fallacious and imaginary Evidence, you represent to the Public, as the most solemn and incontestable

testable Facts. I find you are resolved to help the Apothecaries out at a dead Lift: But it is certainly beneath every honest Man, (as you affect to be thought) to impose upon the Public by asserting absolute Falshoods, giving Testimony to what never happen'd, insinuating Frauds, where it is impossible they should be committed, and representing those Things as practised for Gain and private Profit, which, if any Man was Villain enough to commit, wou'd not bring him Salt to his Porridge: As if you had no other Way to make the Apothecaries pass for honest Men, but by endeavouring to make honest Men pass for Rogues. But before you can establish a Physical Inquisition, and put these honest, honest Gentlemen at the Head of it, there must be more Roguery practised then you dare to mention.

Now, Sir, as to yourself, I should be sorry to say, positively, that you are either a Rogue or an Apothecary: But you have given as great Proofs of being both, as any Man can do by his Pen; and those Dogs-tricks which you know so much better than other Men, and which you represent to be so profitable, are whoreson Temptations to make a Rogue of an honest Apothecary. You are what your Petit-Larcenaries

naries call, a good Hand, and won't scruple to serve your Friends, the Apothecaries, in any Thing that is in your Power. You can serve them in your Way of Business, and not take Advantage of their Ignorance. You can collect Stories about Deceits in Drugs and Compositions of Medicines, from old Dispensatories, which you equivocally affirm to have seen with your own Eyes. You can publish the most infamous Absurdities, and laugh at those that are foolish enough to credit them. You never blush for the worst of Robberies, that of Men's Characters, and good Names, and the very best Terms you can expect to be credited upon, is that of an Informer, an Apothecary's Spy. " Give me your supple Rascal, (says *Mosca* in the Play) your true Parasite, that can stoop and rise, like an Arrow, with the same Motion." But your Talent is shooting Point-blank.

The French Pettifoggers, in Tryals of Property, send for all their Witnesses from Normandy. You too have had your Instructions ; whatever they say, you know ; you tell their Complaints, recite their Charters, vouch for their Honesty, condemn their Opponents, publish their Intentions, give them the Instructions you have received from them, advise them to apply

apply to Parliament after they have done it, and then, with the Confidence of a stigmatized Affidavit-man, whose Perjuries are upon Record, you very modestly declare yourself to be an absolute Stranger to all of them. Well said, my little Elixir *Pharmacopæa*, thou hast the Spirit of the whole Apothecaries Company in thee, and deservest to be incorporated. But to analyze you more distinctly; you are (what St. Paul says of Faith) *The Evidence of Things unseen.*

Plato, that Prince of Philosophers, says, That if an Apothecary gathers from the Physicians Prescript the Knowledge of what will make you sweat, piss, sh---t and spew, so much shall be allowed him, as it is learnt with Ease; but if he shall pretend to apply these so as they may become useful to the old, the young, the strong, the feeble, I shall reply he is both a Madman and a Fool." He might have said Knave too; for an Apothecary's Busines, in Regard to a Physician, is like that of a Colour-grinder to a Painter, or a Labourer to an Architect. And such has been the Opinion of all Men of Learning since *Plato*; all *Pharmacopæa's* that have ever been published, mean the same Thing. The President and College

of Physicians, by their Book, and his Ma-
jesty and Privy-Council, in an Order pre-
fixed to the said Book, intimate a Distrust
of the Apothecaries Honesty, and a Jealousy
of his Ignorance ; and so much may be ga-
thered from the first Page of your Pam-
phlet. You begin your second Page with
The Duty of an honest Apothecary, from
whence I took the Hint of my Motto.
Besides, 'tis an Epithet they always chuse
for themselves. But you may let them
know, that when Honesty is so often to be
found in Men's Mouths, it is seldom to be
found in their Actions.

You say, " The Physicians had Reason
" to solicit this Order, in as much as their
" Credit and Practice depend upon the
" faithful Compositions, and the Goodness
" of the Medicines they direct." I am al-
most at a Loss to know who you mean,
when you say *the Physicians*. The Apo-
thecary affects to be thought your only Phy-
sician ; while he is perpetually visiting the
Sick, the Composition is left to the Care of
his unskilful Boy at Home. Nor does the
Physician's Practice at all depend upon the
Goodness of the Medicine, but upon the
Quantity which he shall prescribe for the

Apo-

Apothecary's Interest ; who declares in all Companies, that he can make the Physician a Beggar when he pleases, if his Method of prescribing is not adapted to his Interest. Don't they now pray in Parliament, that they may be thought competent Judges ; it is the very Pith and Marrow of their Petition, " Every one who has a Husband, " a Wife, a Father, Mother, or Friend to " be concern'd for." To all such I shall hollow aloud, like the Warden of the Play-House Passage, Take Care of your Healths, Take Care of your Pockets.

P. 3. " To prevent them from adulterating for the Sake of Cheapness, or varying thro' ill-grounded Conceit, &c." An Apothecary may give a cheap Medicine, instead of a dear one, as he both makes and directs ; but it is almost impossible for him to give less for it, or sell it for more than he does ; and as for his ill-grounded Conceit, he wont advise with you about it, his Knowledge can go alone.

P. 4. " I must premise, that the wholesale Trade of Medicine-making has of late Years fallen into the Hands of Persons that don't visit the Sick, who have no Knowledge of the Application or Use of Medicine, and whose Reputations are but remotely concerned in the Success of

" them, and who not being Eye-Witnesses
 " of the ill Effects produced by bad ones,
 " cannot be supposed to suffer much Un-
 " easiness from such Considerations." Here
 the Plot begins to open : No Chymist or
 Druggist must sell Medicines, because he
 dont visit the Sick. I never heard that it
 was the Business of a Seller of Medicines to
 visit the Sick : And as for their Knowledge
 in the Application of Medicines, in the
 Name of God, how shou'd they come by
 it ? Cou'd they learn the Use of it from
 braying it in a Mortar ? Did they com-
 mence their Studies when they were first
 ordered to clean their Master's Shop, and
 then his Shoes ? I am sure it has often
 puzzled the small Stock of Learning of ma-
 ny an eminent Apothecary, with the Help
 of his Dictionary behind the Counter, to
 label his Drawers and Pots, and read the
 Doctor's Bill : So that I am not at all sur-
 prized, as you well observe, that he shou'd
 so often be an Eye-witness of the ill Effects
 of his own Medicines. The Chymist, in-
 deed, unconscious of having committed Mur-
 der by his Ignorance, has no Cause to be
 uneasy, whereas Use has made it familiar
 to the Apothecary ; who when his Patient
 dies, why his Time was come, or the Phy-
 sician mistook his Cafe. But as for the
 Medicines,

Medicines, they were excellent, and made up according to the Directions of the *Pharmacopæa*. If the Man's dead, why he must be buried : The Apothecary knows nothing of the Matter. You cannot say he did it: And so he makes out his Bill as merrily as the Undertaker.

P. 5. " Multitudes of Chymists, Drug-gists, &c. fill every Corner of the Town."

The old, the young, the rich, the poor, all Conditions of Men are benefited by it. This galls the Apothecary. The charitable Chymist saves the Lives of Thousands of his Majesty's Subjects, at a Price suitable to their Misfortunes ; and tho' they had no Money they shou'd not go away without Relief. Damn the Poor, says the honest Apothecary, if they were all dead, the Expence of maintaining them would die with them.

" You say, they serve the little Shops ;"
 Ay, say I, and the great ones too, " so that
 " many Apothecaries in Town, at Times,
 " may be under a Necessity of applying to
 " these People for Things which they hap-
 " pen to be out of." Read rather, which
 at all Times they happen to be out of.
 " So that there is not a Gentleman in
 " Town or Country, who may not be
 " obliged, at one Time or another, to

" swallow down their Compositions, such
 " as they happen to be." He who once
 buys his Medicines of a Chymist, will never
 afterwards buy them any where else ; which
 is a great Proof of their Badness, you'll say.
 If the Apothecary complains of the Medi-
 cines in the Country, is it not for the same
 Reason that he complains of the Medicines
 in Town, viz. because he does not sell
 them? When a Gentleman goes into the
 Country for his Health, in parting with his
 Apothecary, he parts with his Disease : The
 Goodness of the Air does not contribute
 more to his Recovery.

" Vast Quantities are sent abroad to our
 " Settlements and Factories, and there have
 " not been wanting famous Instances, of the
 " pernicious Effects of bad Drugs and
 " Medicines, upon our People, in some
 " of those Places, labouring under dan-
 " gerous, epidemick, and fatal Diseases."
 Pray how came they to be famous Instances?
 And why is the Fault to be laid upon the
 Drug, which you acknowledge to be the
 Effect of the Disease? But Murder they say
 will out, and so let it : Well then you must
 know that the Honourable the *East-India*
 Company, at whom this Reflection is le-
 velled, dealt once for several Thousand
 Pounds a Year with these *Emulsioneers*,
 this

this Bunch of Pulp-pated Pill-gilders; but finding it more for the Interest of their Community, and the Honour of their Understanding, to be served better to their Satisfaction, and above Forty per Cent cheaper, they now take their Drugs and Medicines, from *Bevin and Comp.* in *Lombard Street*, and *Johnson* in *Fenchurch Street*, and have left these *Best-side Banditti* of *Black-Fryers*, to digest the Venom of their Spleen, in a Six-penny Pamphlet, called *Frauds detected in Drugs*.

P. 6. " I am far from designing to charge
 " all Chymists, Druggists, or others, with
 " Mis-compounding, Falsifying, or Adultere-
 " rating their Medicines: I do not doubt
 " but there may be very just and faithful
 " Men amongst them. I have the greatest
 " Reason to believe, from what I know,
 " and have heard, that our Navy is well
 " served, that the Army was never better,
 " if so well furnished with perfect Drugs,
 " and Medicines of all Kinds; therefore
 " my Observations, cannot in the least
 " affect such as these, and are meant only
 " of others, void of this Integrity.

Ho! Ho! You will not charge them all?
 Why that is kind, very kind. Hush then!
 Not a Word of an Apothecary, as you value
 your Character; it seems there may be some
 just

just and faithful Men ; but who are they ? Why they are Apothecaries forsooth, and they serve the Navy and the Army. Oh ! Your Servant, do they so ? Aye and the Navy and the Army, might be better served *may be*, and above Forty *per Cent* cheaper *may be* : But let the Government look to that, the Sea Surgeons complain they have great Hardships done them, they are cruelly treated, and it is to be hoped, by and by, that they will be heard. But your Observations, are meant only of others, void of *this Integrity* : Zounds Man what are you about, your Friends will think you banter them ; what Integrity do you mean, that of selling Forty *per Cent*, dearer than others can afford to sell the same, or a better Commodity ? Here take Notice, I mean the Druggists and Chymists, who desire that Visitation, which you represent them to be so fearful of : And though the *Warden* of these *Grocers*, who call themselves *Apothecaries*, only waits upon the Physician, as a Constable does upon a Justice of Peace : Yet all Men think it both scandalous and shameful, that these *Grocers*, or *Green-grocers*, or what you please to call them, should be joined in Commission with a famous, learned and renowned College ; and strut about with Gentlemen, as if they were their Equals, when

when they know themselves by the Trade
they force in other People's Houses, to be
no better then *Pedlars*, and that they had
their Original from an Herb-stall. What!
And shall such Men be allowed competent
Judges of Medicine? I will not believe it.
'Tis an Advantage to the Vanity of Fools,
that *Erasmus* never dreamt of.

We are now come to your Gallimawfry
Chapter of Drugs, where we shall produce
a Specimen or two of your Integrity. You
begin: " It is a Thing much to be lament-
" ed, that we receive so few Drugs from a-
" broad, pure and genuine; at the very
" best, they almost all come, the good and
" bad together, and they are mixt with
" Stones and Straws, and Dirt; &c.
" through Carelessness, or Fraud." Well
is it the Druggest, or Chymist's Fault, if
Drugs don't come from Abroad, pure and
genuine, or that they come good and bad
together, do not all Goods come so? From
Abroad? And is it thus, you swell the black
Account, you bring against them? It is al-
most impossible for Men to be more diligent
and careful, or to take more Pains then they
do, how often may you see them with a
SERON of BARK, first sifting away the Dust,
then separating the small Sort, dividing the
large and Woody from the more delicate and
curious

curious Quill, whilst they are thus a cleansing, sorting and dividing of their Drugs. One or other of the most eminent Apothecaries alights from his Chariot at the Door, and buys up all the Raspings of the RHUBARB, the Siftings of the BARK and the Sweepings of the Shop ; does he buy it to burn, think you, or conscientiously to destroy it for the Good of Mankind ? (as they would make you believe in their Petition) no, he says he only wants it for Powder, or it will do well enough in the Tincture, or Syrop, or such like Cant, or if perchance he purchases four Ounces of the better Sort, only to keep in a Glass and shew his Customers, has he not four Pounds of the worst Sort with it ? and has not the Druggist an Order to send him four Pound more of the worst Sort before the four Ounces are consumed which he first bought of the better Sort ? I don't tell you, that I believe so only, and as I am told, and as I have been informed, thou jesuitical Adulterator of Truth and Sophisticator of common Sense, but I advance the plain and naked Truth, let the Druggist and Chymist's Books be produced, and it will be found so. Look ye, I am now speaking of the most eminent Apothecaries.

You have been informed also, that " they
" beat in their Ingredients unpicked into
" the

" the most capital Compositions, with all
 " their Dross about them." Nay, and what
 is worse, " they sometimes beat in nothing
 " but the Dross.

O rare *Shylock*, you are for a Pound of
 Flesh next the Druggist's Heart I see ; but
 pray now, if he beats in the Dross with the
 Drug, where has he the Dross to beat in
 by itself? you know the Apothecary bought
 that, and could he be supposed to beat in
 the Dross by itself, what the Devil becomes
 of the Drug ?

You tell of a pernicious Root sent from
 abroad mixt with Gentian, but you don't
 tell us, that a Druggist discovered it to be
 so ; had there been enough of it in the
 Hands of these *Homicides*, they would have
 poisoned all *London* and its Suburbs before
 they would have found it out, for all they
 know, or desire to know of Drugs, is how
 to buy them cheap ; and this great Wonder
 which you have lugged into your strange
 Discovery of Frauds, came but in one Par-
 cel, nor can the People abroad be thought
 to have done this by way of Lucre, since a
 cheaper Drug than Gentian can hardly be
 substituted in its Place ; thus, according to
 Art (to make use of an Expression of your
 own) you seem to have " powdered over
 " the Surfaces" of the most villainous Fals-

hoods, and *trim'd* your Account of Frauds with great Artifice and a specious Outside, to render them fit for your dark Purpose ; and your Pamphlet is in reality, to answer its Title, filled with Frauds, Deceits, Differences and Incertainties either of your own Acting or Invention.

Nay, if *Fragments and Siftings*, as you have been told, are put into *Elestuaries*, and if the *Prescription* is discredited and the Patient languishes from the *bad Condition of the Drug*, be pleased to remember who it was that bought it, and who it is that applies it.

“ It is a customary thing (you say) for People to carry their Receipts to be made up, at the first noted Shop in their way.” I would be glad to know where People should carry their Receipts to be made up, but to the noted Shops, the noted Shops are faithful and honest ; it is by Their Fidelity and Honesty that they first become noted (which is even beyond the Conception of an Apothecary.) Besides, the Physician advises it for three substantial Reasons. First, that the Apothecary shall not steal his Patient from him in conjunction with the* Undertaker. Se-

* The Undertaker's Company have two Men in constant Attendance upon the eminent practising Apothecaries, and pay a Crown for every Funeral they get, to his Servant for his Intelligence.

condly,

condly, he is sure of having the Medicine honestly prepared ; and, Thirdly, his Patient can't afford to be robbed. What think you now, are not these tolerable good Reasons ? Nay, and give me leave to assure you that it is the Opinion of many of both Houses, Nobility, Gentry and others, and of the Commonalty to a Man, that the Drug-gists and Chymists should rather have brought their Complaint against the Apothecaries, than the Apothecaries against any body else ; nor is it possible in Nature, for the Apothecary to clear up his Character, or put himself (in Point of Care, Labour, Diligence, Fidelity, or Integrity) upon a Footing with his Competitor, when he knows in his own Conscience, that what he buys of them for one Guinea, he sells again for fifty. " You have heard likewise of the " useless Residuum of Jalap being powder'd " with a little of the fresh Root, and sold " for true Powder of Jalap." A useless Residuum indeed, till you found a Use for it, *Clodius Accusat Mæchos*, says the Satyrift ; and it is a Spanish Proverb, that a Man should never throw Stones whose House is built of Glafs. *Lex Tationis*, was the great Law of Nature, and it is a Maxim in human Policy. *Vulpinari cum Vulpe*. Have at you then, in the Words of *Macduff*, and

curst be he who first cries hold, enough. Now pray give me leave to ask you, if a Pound of *Sperma Cæti* (which an Apothecary buys for Sixteen-pence, and of which when retailed by small Parcels in Draughts, Boluses, &c. he makes above six Pound) do you mind me, is not a greater Cheat and more a Robbery upon the Publick from a single Pound only of that Article, than a Chymist or Druggist can get by your ridiculous Account of a Deceit in Powder of Jalap through the Course of his whole Life.

Page the 10th, you say, " Its to be feared
 " small Apothecaries don't know the proper
 " Species of Plants of our own Growth,
 " much less the Marks of foreign Drugs,
 " either as to their Sort or Goodness."

I believe the Judgment of great and small Apothecaries are pretty much upon a Par; but sure you don't give this as a Reason for their being made competent Judges of Medicine, and Inspectors of the Goodness of such Things whose Sorts and Differences you own they don't so much as know how to distinguish. Here, Sir, I shall subscribe myself of your Opinion. The next Complaint is, that " the Merchant receives them and puts them in his Ware-houses, and then sells them to the Druggist, who sells them to the Apothecary,

" cary, and you never heard, that out of a
 " Principle of Conscience, he destroyed any
 " Commodity." *You believe it is not the
 general Custom.*

What is the Meaning of this senseless Harrangue, don't all Merchandise go from one Man to another after the same Manner? Did you ever hear of any Apothecary, or that Apothecaries Hall destroyed their Medicines out of a Principle of Conscience? *I believe it is not their general Custom.*

Now we come to the Deceits which used to be practised on the Compositions of the old *Pharmacopœa*, upon which you build your Conclusion, that what has been may be ; aye indeed, " and its a Matter of great concern to you, and you have taken great Pains to come at all the Information you could get." Now is not this talking like an Apothecary, and may we not reasonably conclude, that you are some how or other concerned and interested in this Affair? Come, come, I know you are ; you have transcribed private Receipts, and have had it communicated to you by Persons you could depend upon, some of your Accomplices who were concerned themselves, and lamented the Necessity they were under of being Rogues, (and whom you therefore most conscientiously Impeach) These are the honest Gentlemen

tlemen who Told you of their own Villainy, and whose Words you may depend upon. Such a Confession as this might stagger a trading Justice, and would not be admitted for Evidence at the *Old Bailey*. Now, its suprising to me, that with more Industry than most Men, and (according to your Account) more Ways of becoming rich, that so few Chymists and Druggists should build themselves fine Houses, purchase Country Seats, and have large Sums out at Interest, or ride about in their Chariots ; and yet the honest Apothecary can do all this in five or six Years Time, tho' he began the World from the Credit given him by the Chymist, with perhaps, fifty Pounds gathered in the *Christmas Box* of his Apprenticeship the early Pittance of his Parsimony.

The next Thing I shall present you with, is **ÆTHIOPS MINERAL** robbed of a Part of its *Quicksilver* and Cordial Waters of a Pennyworth of Spice. Here, having took your Observations from *Quincy's Dispensatory*, you place it to the Account of a private Receipt as usual, and then drop upon **BLACK CHERRY WATER**, which you tell us is sometimes made from Almond Cakes, and what is worse, sometimes from *Laurel-Leaves*. *Credit quis vult, non ego*; aye, but Laurel Leaves is Poison, say you, and so is the

the Slaver of an insinuating Knav, say I. If black Cherry-Water had been drawn from Poison, more Children wou'd have been kill'd by it in a Week, than were destroyed by Herod's Cruelty. But to shew you that this famous Water, which you make such a Stir about, is as insipid and insignificant as your own Discoveries, the College of Physicians have left it out of their new *Pharmacopæa*, as useless.

The next terrible Accusation is, that LUCA-TELLUS BALSOM, is defrauded of a Bit of Bees-wax; which, if ever done, must be, as you say, according to your own Receipt. However, the Physicians themselves judge it to have been of too hard a Consistency, and so have alter'd it, by adding more Oyl, and less Turpentine. The BASILICON OINT-MENT is represented to be treated in the same Manner. But if the Mushroom Fraternity robb'd by no more profitable Methods, they wou'd not parade it about the Town in Chariots, which they themselves are often at a Stand to know whether they shou'd get in to or ride behind. Nor can it be imagin'd, in the Preparation of CALOMEL, that a Sublimation or two shou'd be omitted, to save Trouble only. Nothing could exceed the unprofitable Dishonesty of such a Neglect, but the unparalleled

rallelled Villainy of him, who, void of common Humanity, seeks, by aspersing Men's Characters, to establish upon their Ruin, a Generation of Blood-suckers, who have engaged themselves in the most dishonourable Confederacies, for mean and mercenary Ends.

In RAWLEIGH'S CONFECTION, the Chymist is accused of not burning the Herbs after Infusion, to procure the Salt to be added to the Composition, because of the Expence of Fire. I don't know that those honest Gentlemen that serve the *Navy and the Army* do it. I never heard they did ; but I know it does not signify a Farthing whether they do or no. Here you must certainly have forgot your Instructions ; and you betray both the Ignorance and Malice of your Masters, when you say, they don't burn the Herbs because of the Expence of Fire ; for every body but an Apothecary knows, that they are inflameable, from the Spirit they imbibe by Infusion, and may be set on Fire with a Match ; nor does the College, in their late Dispensatory, seem to like this extolled Medicine, but have substituted another in its room, more efficacious, less expensive, and prepared with half the Trouble ; so that the Bolus's which used to be charged at such an extravagant Rate, for that costly Composition,

tion, Sir Walter Rawleigh's Confection, may now be sold for Sixpence, and Profit enough for Attendance.

In the DIACASSIA with MANNA, *the Syrop of Violets* is said to have been left out; (why let it) because the Physicians don't think proper it shou'd be in, and have put *Syrop of Roses* in its Place.

I can't help thinking, that a Man who was resolved to go through thick and thin, and stick at nothing, might have invented a Muster-roll of Discoveries more to his Purpose. But to proceed :

We now come to the Account of PLASTERS, where you are as free from Mistake as in the other Compositions. Here, according to you, " the general Method is " to put in a saline uncleaned Sort of Lard, " instead of Oyl." I know but of one Sort of Lard, and that not saline, which I dare say was never used by any Chymist that knew how to make DIACHYLON. Besides, some eminent Surgeons of this Town assure me, that Lard is so far from causing *Inflammations, Heats, or Eruptions*, that it is even a lenient defensive, and totally the Reverse of what you affirm it to be.

When we are told of the DIACHYLON with GUMS, and the PARACELSUS being vitiated with *Burgundy Pitch*, instead of the

warm Gums, and that it stops Perspiration, and loads the Part with a detain'd Matter. Your Description is loaded with a Matter not unlike the Tumour you wou'd describe; for I appeal to all who have any Knowledge in Surgery, if they know a more proper Method of suppurating a Tumour, by Way of Plaister, otherwise then by stopping up the Pores as close as may be.

The MELILOTE has also a Greenness given it by Verdigrease instead of the Herb, but to what Purpose I am a Stranger. Is there any Thing cheaper than the Herb? I believe no Shop but your own makes it after that Manner; nay, the Herb itself is of so little Use, and the Plaister so offensive, that it is left out in the present *Pharmacopæa*, and the Plaister *Atrahens* is substituted in its Stead, which will most effectually prevent the Addition of the Verdigrease, you know.

P. 18. "The LENITIVE ELECTUARY
 " was made in a more compendious Manner
 " than the Rule warranted, by adding the less
 " expensive Pulp of Tamarinds and Damsens,
 " instead of Prunes." What a Pox! are
Damsens to be found in a Chymist's Shop?
 When did you ever see them there? Why,
 Man, you forget yourself; this must be
 meant of your Friends the Green-Grocers,
 alias the Apothecaries; and as for *Tama-*
rinds,

rinds, they are more expensive than Prunes. I suppose you don't intend to prove that they cheat themselves. Nor can the Cassia be omitted, by Reason of its Colour and Smell, tho' you *have been told it answers the Purpose very well, if you might take their Words for it*; and why wont you take their Words for it? You have took their Words, or stole their Receipts, or such like Evidence, for every Thing which you have recounted as Truth hitherto, 'till I believe you begin to be pretty well satisfied, that nobody but an Apothecary will take yours.

The three capital Electuaries, DIASCORIDIUM, MITHRIDATE, and VENICE-TREACLE, are here represented as the three Capital Artifices of a fraudulent Invention. First, "the Spices and Gums are all left out, now they are put in, in Part only; and then they are all put in, but unstrain'd, and with their drossy Parts." Hear a wholesale Dealer tells you all his Secrets, and shews you *how to let down Venice-Treacle with clarified Honey*. Now I suppose we may take his Word, if we please. However, be so kind for once as to take my Word, when I tell you that these three Capital Medicines are to be found in the Chymist's Shop, faithfully prepared; but in the Shop of the fraudulent Apothecary,

they are to be found let down with Honey. In the next Place we are to be entertained with another *Receipt (of a Shop of very great Trade)* which you have now before you. Perhaps it may not be improper to ask you here, how you come by all these Receipts. I dont remember to have heard of any of their Shops being broke open ; and yet it is impossible you should come by them honestly : So that there is no one Way in the World, that I know of to acquit you of the Theft, but by finding you guilty of the Lie. Nay, was the ELIXIR PROPRIETATIS likewise to be prepared, according to your Receipt, (which I firmly believe it never was) no such Profit could arise from it : And when you say *it is a powerful Temptation to an avaritious Trader*, what Opinion are we to entertain of your resisting a Temptation, which you acknowledge to be so powerful, when it shall be discovered that you are an avaritious Trader.

And again, the ELIXIR of VITRIOL is subjected to a Variety of Substitutes in the Room of its Spices. In the Name of Dullness what Sort of Fraud do you call this ? Because its possible that any Thing may be altered ? Is that a Reason that it is ? To steal a Man's Purse would be a pardonable and

and a modest Offence, when compared with such an Assassine.

The next is LIQUID LAUDANUM, which has been used to be robbed, as you term it, of Part of its Saffron, and you believe of its Opium too. What a malicious and wicked Insinuation is here of a Robbery, and to what Purpose can it be committed, when a full Dose of this Medicine is worth no more than the fifth Part of a Farthing, whose Effects will immediately discover the Integrity of the Preparer.

Another Instance given of a Fraud is in the PILLS COCHIAE MINORIS and DE DUOBUS, which you had from *a Sight of Standing Receipts for both*, if this had been done at a Chymists, or a Shop of noted Trade and great Business, you would have told us so in those Terms as usual, but as you have not, it may be the common Practice of every pitiful, pedling Apothecary in Town for what I know, tho' the great Robbery complained of, is not the fourth Part of a Farthing in a Dose, so that this remote, ten times removed round-about Evidence of yours, which you have been collecting ever since the Publication of the old *Pharmacopæa* in the Year Twenty, is no Evidence at all. Would any Man be heard in a Court of Judicature, think you, that attempted to

vouch the Truth of what he had been six and twenty Years a gathering together from Hearsays, private Receipts, idle Whispers, drunken Narratives and old Wives Tales. By this Time, I doubt not, but it will appear, that you are a partial, interested Publisher of Falshoods, which you deliver to the World as your own Discoveries, that many Things which you utter, are impossible to be committed, and the rest highly improbable, and though it should be granted, that some of them may be committed, we are then to consider who are the likeliest Persons to do it: Such as have hitherto preserved the Reputation of being honest Men, whose Actions and known Humanity proclaim it to the Face of Day, who have ever been contented and satisfied with a small Profit, whose Labours are publick Benefits and calculated for the Good of Mankind, or these *Rachas*, these *Pharisees*, these *Apothecaries*, whose Extortions exceed a thousand Fold, those of the Pawn-brokers, whose Avarice can be exceeded by nothing but their Cruelty, and whose Learning would not intitle them to the Benefit of their Clergy, it were an easy Matter to produce more Instances in a Week against them, then you have collected against the Druggist and Chymists in six and twenty Years.

The

The next Adulteration spoken of, is in **HIERA PICRA**, which is said to want its *Spices and Saffron*, but that it did not is demonstrable from this, the Physicians in their new Dispensary, having left out all the Saffron and Spices, except a little Winter's-Bark ; vast Numbers of People who used this Medicine, have proved themselves to be Judges of the Alteration of it, and have given Orders to have it prepared as usual.

If a Druggist or Chymist is barely suspected of a Deceit, let him immediately be summoned to appear before the Company and punished, but if an Apothecary be detected in a thousand, why let him alone.

But the greatest Imposition of all is in counterfeiting the celebrated **CASCON'S POWDER** ; here the Outcry of the Apothecaries is very extraordinary, because the Druggist and Chymist have unmasked the Villainy of this profitable Article : You must know, that the Names of several costly Medicines are only made use of to carry on and support the Cheat upon the Publick, and to justify the Pretence of selling them at so high a Rate. Here I refer all People to their Apothecary's Bill, you will there find Bezoardick Draughts, Bezoardick Boluses, Bezoardick Powders, when the Apothecary, perhaps, never had a Grain of it in his Shop
in

in his whole Life, let the Druggists and Chymists Books be looked into, and in four hundred Articles, to four hundred different Apothecaries, there is not a single Grain of Bezoar sold, whereas, if Three Grains of it only was put by the Apothecary into the famous Gascon's Powder, it would cost but Two-pence, and he sells it for half a Crown, and twenty Grains of Pearl, so highly charged by him, will cost no more; and yet he has no more of Pearl than he has of Bezoar.

And here I could a Tale unfold.

But (in the Words of an honest Ghost)
this Blazon must not be.

However, I have said enough to make you draw in your Horns, and be a little more wary for the Future how you affront the City, by setting up your Caitiff of a Pot-carrier for the Pattern of a Fair-Trader. But to proceed, I have not Room here to recite the whole History of the Frauds of Bezoar, whose Virtues are as great a Cheat as he that pretends to use it when he has it not in his Shop, several learned Physicians have wrote against it; it is the Disease of an Animal, nor can we say, that it dissolves in the Stomach when powdered. Cordial Virtue it has none, and has been proved to move neither the Blood nor Spirits, and seems to
be

be only calculated as an expensive Article to countenance the notorious Extravagance of the Apothecary's Bill.

It seems, in the LAVIS CONTRAYRVA the Pearls were omitted, I tell you once more the Apothecary has no Pearls; search an hundred Shops, you shall not find one. I remember I once asked an eminent Apothecary why he charged Pearl so often, but never let his Patients have any? Upon which he pay'd his Customers a pretty Compliment, by telling me, *he did not chuse to cast his Pearl before Swine.*

SAL PRUNEL, you say, is frequently adulterated with *Alom*, was there ever such an ignorant Assertion; here you are strangely put to your Shifts. For the Chymist to mix *Sal Prunel* with *Alom*, is a Thing impossible in Nature. What a Blunder have you betrayed yourself by. *Alom* will not melt with *Nitre*, the one being a real Sulphur and the other a fixt Salt.

The SPECIES DIAMBRÆ too was liable to Abuse. What Sort of Reason do you call this; is there a Thing in the World but what is liable to abuse, every honest Man is liable to Abuse, which is the only Thing that you have proved sufficiently.

That the Spirits of SALVOLATILE, are differently made, and cheap, is the next Complaint.

I very well know, that a cheap Medicine will always be complained against by those who make every Medicine a *dear one*, but you might have pocketed this Observation with your Receipts, if you had looked over the last Pharmacopæa, where the Physicians have given two different Sorts and neither of them expensive.

The next Accusation is,

“ That the SPIRIT of HARTSHORN is
 “ drawn from a Variety of Animal Sub-
 “ stances different from what it ought to
 “ be, *viz.* from *urinous Mixtures*, from *com-*
 “ *mon Bones* of any kind, and from *Ivory*.
 “ I knew a Chymist, (*say you*) who never
 “ used, as he himself acknowledged to me,
 “ any other Material than the last mention-
 “ ed, and who always sold it for the true
 “ Hartshorn Spirit.”

Your good Friend the Chymist, who told you this *Canterbury Story*, was, in my Opinion, a very arch Fellow; he certainly smoaked you for an *Informer*, and accordingly under the Sanction of promised Secrecy, told you what he knew you would divulge, he has stampt *Trium literarum Homo* upon your

your Cheek. Why Man, you can't think how the Chymists laugh at you about your Account of *Ivory*. The great *Boerhaave* says, that the Oil, Salt and Spirit of all *Animal Bodies* are alike, but that *Hartshorn* is indued with the greatest Quantity of each, and is the very cheapest Material that they can be drawn from. For the burnt *Hartshorn*, when the Oil, Salt and Spirit are taken from it, is sold for as much as it cost at first; so that the Man who should be obliged to draw it from *Ivory*, if he sold large Quantities, must inevitably be undone. What a fine Tale have you told for the Good of the Publick. *Aliquid de lanâ Caprinâ.*

As to the DIACODIUM, or Syrop of white Poppy-Head, and the Tincture of RHUBARB, &c. they are so easily prepared, that every Family that has a House-keeper or an old Woman in it, can make them themselves, but if the Tincture is prepared by the Chymist, with the bad picked from a Heap, (of the Good) let it suffice to prove, that they are Masters of a large Quantity of so useful a Drug, which you may be certain they use in the Compositions of their own Shops, for Reasons that are obvious to every body, who knows the saving Artifices of an Apothecary in the Purchase of his Medicines.

C O N C L U S I O N.

Having thus waited upon you through five and twenty tedious Pages, and finished your most iniquitous and fraudulent Account of Frauds ; can it be imagined, at last, that we who have hitherto so widely differed in our Sentiments of Men and Things, should yet agree in our Conclusion, *viz.* that it is to be wished, that the Wisdom of Parliament would exert itself for the Publick-Good, and form some equitable Law for the more effectual restraining of such as adulterate the Medicines which they are directed to prepare. But shall the Offender be invested with a Power of passing Sentence upon his own Offence. All former Statutes were made, intended and designed to put a Stop to the avaritious Practice of the *ignorant Apothecary*. To take Power from him, not to invest him with it ; and to make him *honest*, if *possible*. By what strange Reverse of Good-Policy then does the Felon expect, that he shall be made a Judge, and appointed to put those Laws in execution.

execution upon others, which were intended for his own Punishment ; it is equally unreasonable that he should be allowed a Fee for visiting his Patient, since it may be easily demonstrated, that in a Bill of fifty Guineas, he is paid fifty Pounds only for his Attendance. But what Act of Parliament can provide against the following Piece of Roguery.

A certain noble Duke, not long since, sent to his Apothecary for ten Bottles of *Acton* Water ; the Servants being otherways employed, gave a written Direction to a Man who used to go on Errands for the Family, desiring of the Apothecary, that the *Acton* Water might be sent by the Bearer ; the Fellow delivered his Order to the Apothecary's Man, who went backward to the Yard, and was heard to pump several Times, when presently he brought in, and set upon the Counter ten Bottles uncorked whose Out-sides trickled down with Water ; he afterwards saw him weigh out a certain Powder and put a small Quantity of it into each Bottle, he then corked the Bottles, and delivered them to be carried home to the Duke's as *Acton* Water. The Man made a faithful Report of what had happened, the Apothecary was sent for, and charged with the

the Fact, which he could not deny, but laid the Blame upon the Neglect of his Servant.

Quære, Whether it does not appear, from all the Circumstances of this Story, that the Apothecary was an old Offender ?

Doctor *Turner* tells a Story to the same Purpose, of a Woman that came to an Apothecaries in the City, and asked for some *Aqua Plantaginis*, but was dismiss'd by the Man's telling her they had none. The Master of the Shop overhearing what had pass'd, came forward and reproach'd him thus : “ *Aqua Plantaginis*, and we have “ none ; you foolish Rascal ! cou'dn't you “ have given her some *Aqua Pump-paginis* ? “ and wou'd not that have done as well ? ” I find *Aqua Pump-paginis* is a considerable Article in an Apothecary's Shop.

Had the Druggists and Chymists took it in their Heads to recriminate, they might have collected from every Apothecary's Shop in *London*, twenty Articles that would have been condemned at the Hall, if it had not been told before-hand where they were bought. Doctor *Pitt*, Fellow of the College of Physicians and the Royal Society, and Physician of St. *Bartholemew's Hospital*, has left us Transcripts of a Deposition, asserted before the President and Censors of the

the College of Physicians, of several Medicines bought of the most eminent and applauded Governors and Members of the Apothecaries Company, which were so notoriously sophisticated, and so scandalously defective, that there was not one good Medicine to make amends for the rest. Nothing could equal the Villainy and arbitrary Proceeding of these Men, who affected to be thought *competent Judges of Medicine*, and always abused the Power they were intrusted with, either to promote their Interest, or satisfy their Revenge. Now, according to your Argument, what has been may be. And this will serve to shew, how little these Men ought to be trusted with more Power, who made so ill a Use, and so vilely prostituted the Power they had.

Transcripts of the Deposition.

Mr. G---'s Shop.

London Laudinum. Without either Colour or Smell.

Oxycroceum. Without Saffron.

Pil. Ruff. No Colour of Saffron.

Mr.

Mr. R----'s Shop.

Diascordium. Dark and thin, without a due Proportion of the Gums.

London Laudinum. A dry hard Substance, without Smell or Colour.

Mr. S---'s Shop.

Diascordium. Too thin. (let down with Honey I suppose.)

Venice Treacle. A thin Body, much candied.

London Laudinum. A dry hard Substance, without Smell or Colour.

Mr. G---'s Shop.

Diascordium. Thin bodied, much candied.

Venice Treacle. Thin, candied without its Proportion.

London Laudinum. A dry hard Substance.

Mr. G---'s Shop.

Paracelsus. Without its proper Powders or Gums.

Oxycrocium. Of a dark black Colour.

Diascordium. Of a thin Substance.

Gascon's Powder. Without Bezoar.

London Laudinum. Hard, without Smell or Colour.

Pil ex duobus. Without the Oyl of Cloves.

Mr. S---'s Shop.

Diascordium. Of a thin Body, without the Gums.

Mithridate. No Colour of Saffron.

London Laudinum. Neither Sinell nor Colour.

Liquid Laudinum. Thin, no Colour of Saffron.

Gascon's Powder. Without Bezoar.

This is substantial Evidence, this is upon Record.

These were the Tricks of the Apothecaries Company: And it is from hence I suppose you stole your Account of Frauds and Deceits that you charge the Druggists and Chymists with.

You must know this Tribe of Treacle-mongers were resolved to ruin a Man of great Character and Reputation in his Way of Business, as an Apothecary, but he employed (as the Chymists should have done) several of his Friends and Acquaintance,

People of Credit, to buy their own bad Compositions, from the Shops of his Accusers, the Warden and Governors of the Apothecaries Company, which he produced against them in his own Defence.

Mr. Lawrence, the Man whose Destruction they had plotted, was brought before their Worships for the Tryal of his Medicines: They then opened the Cause, as they have lately done their Petition before the Honourable the House of Commons.

It was a Matter of the greatest Concern to them---and they were very sorry to speak it---but they took it greatly to Heart---and their Consciences wou'd not let them be silent----they were afraid that the Lives of several Thousands of his Majesty's Subjects were lost, by bad Medicines: And they were resolved to prevent so many barbarous and cruel Murthers not only from the Obligations of their Religion and Humanity, but to raise the aspiring Glory of the Apothecaries Company.

Here I'll leave you to guess the Confusion of these canting Hypocrites, when the villainous Adulteration of their own Compositions was proved before their Faces, as had been asserted before the President and Censors of the College of Physicians.

P O S C R I P T.

One of the principal Evidence for the Apothecaries was an Operator at the Drug-gist Laboratory, who robb'd his Masters of vast Sums, carried on a clandestine Trade with their Stock, which he never brought to account, forged Receipts for what was never delivered, rectify'd Molossus in their Cellars by Night, and in Private, to defraud his Majesty of the Duty ; in which he was at last detected, as will appear by the Book of Excise, with several other Villainies, that will be discover'd in due Season.

How despicable are the Practices of those Men, whose mercenary Purpose puts them to the fatal Necessity of making use of such Instruments ? and with what a desperate Frenzy must they be posseſt, who think, by artful Appearances, to conceal their Machinations from the piercing Eye of legislative Power. Is there any one so foolishly credulous, to believe, that these Men want Medicine to be mended, or Drugs and Compositions to be unadulterate ? No, they only want to establish for themselves, (by Oppression) an ungovernable Practice, to the

the Discredit of the Physician, Surgeon, Druggist and Chemist, that they may the more easily prey upon the Miseries of such as have the Misfortune to stand in Need of them,

F I N I S.

